a) providing to said cell a molecule which causes morphology of a cell to be transfected to change from a stellate morphology to an elongated morphology, said molecule being Tenacin C; and

a1 Cont b) providing to said cell a nucleic acid encoding a heterologous protein or polypeptide for the transfection of said cell, whereby the presence of said molecule increases the efficiency of delivery of said nucleic acid to said cell when compared to cells transfected in the absence of said molecule.

3. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid encoding said heterologous protein or polypeptide is cloned in a vector which is provided to said cell simultaneously with providing said molecule.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid encoding said heterologous protein or

a2 polypeptide is cloned in a vector which is provided to said cell prior to providing said molecule.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid encoding said heterologous protein or polypeptide is cloned in a vector which is provided to said cell after providing said molecule.

27. (Amended) A composition for enhancing the efficiency of delivery of a nucleic acid to a cell, said composition comprising

a) tenascin C which causes the morphology of a

a3 cell to change from a stellate morphology to an elongated morphology; and

b) a nucleic acid encoding a heterologous protein or polypeptide for the transfection of said cell.

28. (Amended) The composition of claim 27, wherein said nucleic acid encoding said heterologous protein or polypeptide is cloned into a vector which is selected from the group consisting of a plasmid vector, a viral vector and a linearized nucleic acid.

33. (Amended) A kit for enhancing the efficiency of delivery of a nucleic acid to a cell, said kit comprising

a) an instructional material;

b) tenascin C which causes morphology of a cell to change from a stellate morphology to an elongated morphology; and

c) a nucleic acid encoding a heterologous protein or polypeptide for transfection into said cell.

Please add the following new claims:

34. The composition of claim 27, wherein said cell is a vascular smooth muscle cell.

35. The composition of claim 27, further comprising a vehicle that is suitable for pharmaceutical delivery.

36. The composition of claim 35, wherein said vehicle is a liposome forming lipid.

37. The composition according to claim 27, further comprising a carrier that permits controlled release of said molecule.

38. The composition of claim 37 coated onto a tissue or organ localizing device.